

Pop Star of Hilton Head Island

By Leslie Westlake

Gregg Russell's Bubble Gum Club is a hit with kids on Hilton Head Island.

Where Gregg Russell goes, kids follow. They flock to see him perform under the spreading Liberty Oak in Harbour Town.

They clamber to join the summer day camp at Sea Pines Resort. And they can't wait to climb aboard his Bubble Gum Cruise in search of friendly dolphins.

For more than 25 years, Gregg Russell has been delighting children on Hilton Head. Sea Pines founder, Charles Fraser, hired Russell to perform for two weeks way back in 1976. Since then, millions of residents and visitors have enjoyed his free concerts under the oak, and now a second generation is joining in as kids he once performed for return with their own children.

Fans never tire of hearing "Purple People Eater," "When I Grow Up" and "Booger in the Sugar." Many go home with Gregg's award-winning movie, "Camp Tanglefoot," featuring the song "It All Adds Up." The lyrics serve a lesson for young and old. "The world would be a better place if we all did our part. A little here, a little there, coming from the heart...When

you try to do your best, even when it's tough, it all adds up."

Gregg Russell and his wife, Lindy, have been adding up a lot of little things to make this world a better place. They founded "Hilton Head Heroes," a charity that brings children with life threatening or terminal illnesses and their families to the island for an all-expenses-paid vacation. His "Lids for Kids" program has provided thousands of hats for children on chemotherapy. A grateful community named the playground at Harbour Town after him.

In the summer, Gregg can be found under the Liberty Oak in Harbour Town every Sunday through Friday at 8pm. The Bubble Gum Cruise departs from Harbour Town Marina on the Vagabond all summer every Thursday and Friday at 9am.

Come early, and be on your most childish behavior.

Find out more...

Gregg Russell's HiltonHead
Bubble Gum Club
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